Appln. No. 09/919,734
Amendment dated January 7, 2005

PATENT

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 26, through page 6, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

Lastly, the method for calculating the image structure variation in the step (2) will be described with reference to Figs. 13A, 13B, 13C, 14A, 14B, 14C and 15. Figs. 13A, 13B and 13C show the effects that the changes in illuminance have on the slit images. Let us consider a slit 1301, in which the illuminance of each pixel is expressed by P1 ... PN as shown in Fig. 13A. If we draw a graph in which the vertical axis indicates the illuminance of the pixels ~~the positions of the pixels~~ and the horizontal axis indicates the positions of the pixels ~~the illuminance of the pixels~~, we have a graph of a slit image 1305 in Fig. 13B. Supposing the slit image 1301 as a whole becomes dark due to a sudden change in illuminance, such as by a shadow, the graph 1301 undergoes a uniform decrease from 1305 to 1307 while retaining the relative illuminance levels among the pixels P1 through PN as shown in Fig. 13C. This change in illuminance can be illustrated as shown in Figs. 14A, 14B and 14C by expressing the slit image by vector notation.